(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The Preparation of schemes/project proposals for development of tourism in the State and the development of tourist spots therein is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Governments. However, the Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance to State Governments on the basis of specific proposals received from them and dependent upon the availability of funds, *inter-se* priority and their merits. The Department has sanctioned financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure at Vaishali, Nalanda, Bodhagaya, Rajgir, Gaya and Valmiki Nagar, which are also places of religious importance. According to the scheme, State Governments have to provide developed piece of land free of cost and maintain facilities set-up for tourists.

Permits to private taxi operators

964. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of agencies to whom air taxi operators permits have since been issued; and

(b) the details of agencies which have started air taxi services and the details of routes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The following six air taxi operators have obtained permits for running air taxi services:

1. M/s. India International Airways Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

2. M/s. Delhi Gulf Airways Services Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

3. M/s. U. B. Air Private Ltd., Bangalore.

4. M/s. Air Asiatic Ltd., Madras.

5. M/s. Trans Bharat Aviation Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

6. M/s. Continental Aviation Pvt. Ltd., Bhopal.

Air Taxi operators are free to operate to all airports open to operation of scheduled air services.

Installation of Three Phase Electric Line in Village Bara in Pauri Garhwal, U.P.

965. SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration to instal a three phase electric line in village Bara under Pauri Garhwal district, Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when the village would be linked by three phase electric line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Lack of Vehicles with D.E.S.U.

966. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the D.E.S.U. is totally ill-equipped for preventive service or post-breakdown service largely on account of lack of transport vehicles to the various D.E.S.U. service centres in the Capital;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only one vehicle is available for the

entire Southern region of DESU to look after breakdowns;

(c) if so, what is the number of staff that have been provided in the Southern Region of DESU and how many vehicles are available to attend the breakdowns; and

(d) whether Government have any proposal to streamline DESU working in order to prevent frequent breakdowns and burning of meters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) According to DESU, it has adequate arrangements for attending to the breakdown complaints, including the provision of transport vehicles for this purpose.

(b) and (c) There are four Distribution Districts in the South Circle of DESU and each District has been provided with one breakdown vehicle. 4 additional vehicles are also made available during evening/night shifts. 16 Superintendent (Technical), 27 Linemen, 13 Fitters, 96 Mazdoors and 16 Drivers have been provided for attending to the breakdowns in the South Circle of DESU.

(d) DESU is augmenting and strengthening its transmission and distribution system at various voltage leavels to improve its power supply system.

Power Theft in Kanpur and Lucknow

967. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have directed some of the specific cases of power thefts by some consumers of electricity in Kanpur and Lucknow to the UPSEB for proper investigation and action;

(b) whether even after such directions the UPSEB has not yet acted into the matter properly;

(c) whether the UPSEB due to above reason is losing heavily on financial matters and is increasingly becoming dependent of finance from Central Government;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(e) what action is proposed to be taken by Government to identify the lapses of the UPSEB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Deprivatisation of coal mines

968. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 27 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th July, 1991 and state:

(a) whether Government have decided to deprivatise the coal mines particularly in the State of Bihar; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, all leases for winning or mining of coal granted in favour of private persons except those engaged in the production of iron and steel, stand terminated w.e.f. 29-4-1976 and no lease for winning or mining coal can be granted in favour of any person other than the Government companies or Corporation. At present there is no proposal to amend these provisions.